



Lantern

News from Presentation College, Carlow

Presentation College Carlow Awards Day

Well done to all students who received awards in the Presentation College Awards ceremonies. Many areas of school life were covered including the academic, sporting and musical. Students who made special contributions to the life of the school were recognised as were those who had outstanding personal achievements. Both Junior and Senior ceremonies were hosted by Ms. Noreen O'Looney and awards were presented by Mr. Ray Murray (Principal).

Senior Student of the Year was awarded to **John Murphy (Sixth Year)** and **Junior Student of the Year** was awarded to **Colm Broderick (Third Year)**. Both of these awards are presented on the basis of the students' contribution to the life of the school, academic achievement relative to ability, contribution to extra-curricular activities, inspiration to other students, courtesy, co-operation, social and leadership skills. Other nominees for this prestigious award included Conor Heffernan, Erin Kelso and Dermot McGuill in the Senior category and Sarah Furey, Amy Hutchinson, Tomas Sheehan and Laura Ward in the Junior category.

The **Bridin Quinn Award** was presented to **Feargal Ward (Sixth Year)**. This award is presented to a Sixth Year student who, despite great challenges, has made a great effort to succeed in school. Other nominees for this award were Jordan Egan and Hazel O'Flaherty.

Senior Sportsperson of the Year was awarded to **David Aston (Sixth Year)** and **Junior Sportsperson of the Year** was awarded to **Laura Ward (Third Year)**.

Senior Musician of the Year was awarded to the very versatile **David Aston (Sixth Year)**, while **Junior Musician of the Year** was divided between **Colm Broderick** and **Denytio Stewart (Third Year)**.

Rebecca Ogunsola (Sixth Year) received an award for achieving an incredible one hundred per cent attendance record during her five years in Presentation College.

Other recipients of awards on the day were **David Lawler (Fifth Year – Senior Athlete)**, **Niall Harvey (Third Year – Junior Athlete)**, **David Aston (Sixth Year – Senior Boys Footballer)**, **Adam Murphy (Third Year – Junior Boys Footballer)**, **Leah Coffey (Fifth Year - Senior Ladies Footballer)**, **Aoife Mulhall (First Year – Junior Ladies Footballer)** **Adam Dunne (Sixth Year - Senior Hurler)**, **David Aston (Sixth Year – Senior Soccer)**, **Tomas Sheehan (Third Year – Junior Soccer)**, **Jack Williams (First Year - Rugby)**, **Jack Honnen (Second Year - Table Tennis)**, **Megan O'Neill (Senior Musical Performance)** and **Ciara O'Doherty (Junior Musical Performance)**. Achievements by many other students in areas such as Technology, F1 in Schools, Gaisce, Zambia Project, Student Council, John Paul II Awards, Meitheal Leaders and School Prefects were also recognised at the ceremonies.

To contact Presentation College:

Phone: (059) 9143927 Fax: (059) 9140645

email: info@presentationcollegearlow.com web: www.presentationcollegearlow.com

Important Dates

Return to School

First Year: 27th Aug.

Second Year: 31st Aug.

Third Year: 28th Aug.

Fourth Year: 31st Aug.

Fifth Year: 31st Aug.

Sixth Year: 28th Aug.

Leaving Cert Results:

Wed. 12th August

October Midterm:

Mon. 26th – Fri. 30th

Words to the Wise

*“Success is not final,
failure is not fatal: it is
the courage to
continue that counts.”*

World Finals

Huge congratulations to the F1 in Schools Teams of Autolaunch Racing and Fusion F1 who competed so successfully at the World Finals in Abu Dhabi. Lee Campbell, John Harding, Pauric Dempsey and David Hatton of Autolaunch Racing secured two of the most prestigious awards – Best Engineered Car and Best Verbal Presentation – and came fifth overall on the world stage. Their fellow students of Tadhg Downey, Matt Cullen and Jordan Hennessy, along with their colleagues from Dubai, as Fusion F1 received the Best International Collaboration Team award. The teams were tremendously proud to have performed so well and to have brought success to their school again. The students would also like to thank Ms McHugh, Mr Ryan and Mr O'Neill for all of their support, and would also like to thank their numerous sponsors.

La Semaine Française

French students were immersed in French culture as the school celebrated our annual French Week in Presentation College. Different year groups took part in a variety of events throughout the week for all French students. Activities included a French play, a French film, un petit déjeuner Français and a French inspired art competition. Well done to all students who participated in the various events during the week.

Karate Champion

Congratulations to Ben McMahon (Fifth Year) who won a gold medal in the National Karate Championship. Ben was competing in the Special Needs Category and this is his second win in the competition in two years. The competition took place in the National Basketball Arena and Ben was representing Askea Karate Club.

Shrek the Musical

A large group of students from all year groups in Presentation College attended 'Shrek the Musical' in the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre, Dublin. A very entertaining time was had by all!

'Les Misérables' in London

Sixteen Leaving Cert. Music students from Presentation College visited London to experience a live stage performance of 'Les Misérables' in a West End Theatre. Accompanied by three teachers, the group also enjoyed visits to the Science Museum and the Natural History Museum and a walking tour of London which brought them to Piccadilly Circus, Leicester Square, Trafalgar Square and Buckingham Palace. The trip was rounded off by a ride on the London Eye, a visit to the nearby Christmas markets and some last minute bargain hunting in Covent Garden.

Paris Trip

Forty Second and Third Year French students enjoyed a fantastic trip to Paris in the weeks before Christmas. Accompanied by Ms. Cadinot, Ms. Dunne, Ms. Egan and Mr. Mc Assey, the group explored the many wonders Paris has to offer. Upon return to school, the students have found the trip has increased their awareness and interest in the French language and its culture.

Digital Biscuit Forum

Well done to Lee Campbell (Fifth Year) who presented the opening keynote address at the Digital Biscuit Forum in the Science Gallery, Dublin. Digital Biscuit is an international film and technology forum that aims to foster innovation and collaboration in film and television production, and it took place at Dublin's Science Gallery from 28th – 30th January.

Creative Writing

On Friday, 23rd January, Dublin born author Dermot Bolger visited Fifth and Transition Year students. During the two hour visit he held a creative writing class and a reading from his novel "New Town Soul" which Fifth year students have just completed as part of their Comparative Study on the English course. The creative writing session was great fun as students were shown to write from photographs. The wide variety of interpretations was extremely interesting

To contact Presentation College:

Phone: (059) 9143927 Fax: (059) 9140645

email: info@presentationcollegecarlow.com web: www.presentationcollegecarlow.com

and everybody learned from others' ideas and styles. The questions and answers session at the end proved insightful and it was great for students to get a grasp of life as a writer. One piece of information that stuck with the class was "All you need to write is a pen and paper. Just write".

Euroscola

Well done (again!) to Lee Campbell (Fifth Year) who has won a free four day trip to Strasbourg on The Graduate online civic awareness competition. He will be accompanied by twenty three other students from around the country as they experience one full day at the European Parliament. Lee will take part in Euroscola which is a youth parliament which discusses pre-selected EU topics with students from other member states. While in Strasbourg, Lee will also enjoy trips to other places of educational interest.

Humourfit Drama Presentations

All Junior Cycle students in Presentation College had drama presentations on various social issues relevant to our times. The workshops were facilitated by Mr. Michael O'Sullivan, Artistic Director with the excellent Humourfit Drama Workshop. First Year students enjoyed a lively performance called 'The Mighty Bully Brady' with an anti-bullying theme while Second Year students pondered on 'Hooked', a drama which dealt with a drugs issue. Third Year students were entertained with a drama about dealing with stress and finding inspiration in 'The Importance of Breathing'. These dramas are organised by the Guidance and SPHE departments and seek to augment, deepen and compliment learning on the Social Personal and Health Education programme in school.

Showtime!

First and Second Year Music Classes from Presentation College travelled to City Hall in Cork to attend a concert put on by the Cork City Pops Orchestra. They had a great day and listened to some fabulous music from the movies including Harry Potter, Jaws, The Sound of Music and lots more.

Transition Year students were kindly invited to see St. Laserian's production of 'The Wizard of Oz'. It was a great show and all the students really enjoyed it.

Active School Week

Active School Week 2015 took place from Monday, April 27th to Friday, May 1st highlighting the importance of physical activity in everyday life. All students completed the "Pres Mile" on St. Laurence O'Toole running track. A variety of different sporting activities took place such as 'Penalties against the Principal', archery, tug of war, Elvery's Power Team and the annual Teachers v Sixth Year rounders match. Sports Day took place on Friday, May 1st. Active School Week ended with a Pop Up 5k at Presentation College on Sunday, May 3rd.

Texaco Art Competition

Congratulations to Viktorija Vilcauskyte, a Leaving Cert. student, who has won a Special Merit Award in Category A of the 61st Texaco Children's Art Competition with an entry called 'Snapshot'. Viktorija sketched an old photograph of her mother and brother, which was precious to her Mum, and that she herself was particularly drawn towards. The result was a striking drawing which captivated the Texaco Art judges. Viktorija's drawing can be viewed at www.texacochildrensart.com. Viktorija hopes to advance to a course in Visual Communications or Design after her Leaving Cert. This is an interest and a passion that Viktorija has harboured from a young age.

Viktorija was invited to this year's Awards Ceremony which was held in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Dublin on Thursday afternoon, 28th May 2015.

Smart Future

Senior Physics and Chemistry students were given the opportunity to listen to a talk given by Irene Farrell of Smart Future. The talk consisted of the potential future for students interested in science and technology and the hundreds of career opportunities available to them should they choose a science driven

To contact Presentation College:

Phone: (059) 9143927 Fax: (059) 9140645

email: info@presentationcollegecarlow.com web: www.presentationcollegecarlow.com

course at third level. This is part of an educational drive by Smart Future to help and educate students about the importance of technology and science in everyday life and the importance of young students getting involved in this huge sector of our society.

Carlow Fleadh Winner

Shane Nolan, a Third Year Music student from Presentation College won the Tom Nolan Cup for Best Overall Fiddle in the Carlow Fleadh 2015.

Leaving Certificate Graduation

Sixth Year students bid a fond farewell to their schooldays in a moving ceremony on Friday 22nd May. Mass was celebrated in Askea church by Fr. Tom Little and focused on a theme chosen by the students: 'Branches grow apart but are always connected by the same roots, the same tree'. The ceremony was followed by 'tea and sandwiches' in the school library and 'a night out in town'!

Transition Year News

Amber Flag: Positive Mind, Positive Life

From February to May, the Transition Year group under the careful guidance of Ms. Maher promoted an atmosphere of positivity throughout the school. This was part of the school's effort to achieve the Amber Flag. The Amber Flag initiative aims to encourage schools, clubs, organisations and societies to promote and actively bring about a culture change in promoting positive mental health within the educational system and other organisations.

Students from every year took part in activities such as designing positive posters, hiding smiley faces around the school and playing music at break time. As part of the Positive Mind, Positive Life approach, a video featuring students and teachers dancing to 'Uptown Funk' by Bruno Mars was also filmed. This video is now available to view on YouTube at [Presentation College Carlow Rocks "Uptown Funk"](#).

Towards the end of the school year news arrived that our school had been successful in obtaining the Amber Flag. The award was presented in Dublin City University by Irish rugby star Alan Quinlan, who spoke about his own battle with depression and anxiety.

Well done to all Transition Year students who were part of the Amber Flag committee and to their teacher Ms Georgina Maher who guided and supported them all the way.

KCLR visit

Fr. Dan Carroll, who presents Sunday Matters on local radio station KCLR every Sunday morning, made a visit to our school to pre-record his show with Transition Year students, Dylan Dooley, Kate Mulhall, Emma Lyons and Grace O'Connor. These students read the Gospel and reflected on it for Sunday 8th March. The Gospel readings and reflections were accompanied by a song which was played on piano by Martha Dolan and sung by Aoife O'Sullivan, Clodagh McHugh and Megan O'Neill, all Transition Year students. The students were delighted with the opportunity of featuring on the radio and thought it was an excellent experience for them!

AIB Regional Winners

Presentation College's school bank "Bouncy Bank", competed in the AIB 'Build a Bank Challenge' regional final in Dublin. The bank team which is comprised of six Transition Year students Dylan Dooley, Aoife O'Sullivan, Lauren Byrne, Emma Lyons, Rachel Kidd and Ailbhe Dempsey were competing against twenty six other schools in the region and were put through their paces, including a ten minute interview with the judges as well as giving a two minute presentation in front of judges and participants. The team were accompanied by their teacher Ms. Karen Donnelly and AIB Student Officer Ms. Laura Johnson.

Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland

The Transition Year students from Presentation College, Carlow had a very informative talk from Youth Suicide Prevention Ireland. They highlighted the

To contact Presentation College:

Phone: (059) 9143927 Fax: (059) 9140645

email: info@presentationcollegearlow.com web: www.presentationcollegearlow.com

importance of being aware of suicide with someone you know, with the most common sign being a sudden change of personality.

They taught the students how to recognise the signs of suicide and depression, how to confront them and how to listen to them actively and give them your full attention.

They concluded the talk by handing out a leaflet with their own "FreeText Suicide Crisis Information" where anyone can text HELP to 50015 and get a response in thirty seconds with all the different helplines available.

The students really enjoyed this talk from Youth Suicide Prevention and greatly appreciate the advice on how to reduce the stigma that comes with mental health.

Young Social Innovators

Three Transition Year groups from Presentation College took part in this year's YSI project. Young Social Innovators fires young peoples' passion to change the world for good. It focusses on empowering young people to use their own talents to be social innovators, experiencing and developing their sense of justice, responsibility and capacity to create a fairer, more caring and equal society. To this end, one group of Transition Year students from Presentation College promoted literacy within the school and the local community while the other two groups raised awareness of Relationships and Sexuality issues, including teenage pregnancy in Ireland and Zambia. All three groups attended and gave presentations in the Lyrath Hotel, Kilkenny in May.

Transition Year Graduation

The final weeks of Transition Year were very busy with a trip to Waterford IT and a sleepover in the school gym. The year was completed by an enjoyable graduation ceremony at which students received their certificates of graduation.

Sport

Presentation College Ladies Football

The Ladies Football team from Presentation College were very pleased with their progress in 2014-2015. Encouraged by their coach Ms. Sinéad Egan, the team embarked on an intensive fitness regime and this showed itself on the playing field. The team also managed to get sponsorship for their new training tops through a competition to predict the score of this year's All-Ireland final. The girls would like to thank all who generously supported the team.

Gaelic Football

The Senior Footballers won the Carlow Schools A Football competition with a clear victory over Gaelcholáiste. In the course of the year this team were undefeated by any local team in any competition. The players showed tremendous commitment and dedication to training. Despite all of their work they were beaten in the first round of the Leinster Championship by ArdScoil Rath Iomgháin, Rathangan by a margin of four point. ArdScoil were a phenomenal team and went on to win both Leinster and All Ireland titles in all cases with bigger winning margins than against our team.

Our Junior team qualified from the local Carlow competition to reach the South Leinster semi-final against Coláiste Chill Mhantain, Wicklow. Unfortunately they were defeated on this occasion.

Athletics Report 2015

2015 has been another very busy and successful year for athletics in our school. After a very successful autumn with the Cross Country Leagues and Multi-Events we moved on to the South Leinster Cross Country last January. Our Minor girls of Rhian Kidd, Kia Maher, Blessing Kingsley Ciara Harrington, Ellen Dempsey and Amy McDonald qualified for the Leinster finals where they finished fifth. David Lawler at Senior and Laura Ward and Niall Harvey both at Inter qualified all the way to the All-Ireland in Clongowes in March where they all put in very good

To contact Presentation College:

Phone: (059) 9143927 Fax: (059) 9140645

email: info@presentationcollegearlow.com web: www.presentationcollegearlow.com

performances, particularly David Lawler who finished an excellent 22nd in his first All-Ireland.

The summer term is all about the track and we had two very successful days at the South Leinster in Kilkenny with a long list of medal winners. Both our Minor relay teams, boys and girls finished second and were just outside the medals at the Leinster finals. The girls were Kia Maher, Blessing Kingsley, Ciara Harrington and Rhian Kidd and the boys were Harley Fox, Jakub Brzezinski, Darragh O'Donoghue and Torik Adegoke. Laura Ward was a winner of the U-16 Mile all the way to the All-Ireland, setting records at every stage. Grace Lawler in the Senior 100m, Niall Harvey in the U-16 mile and Leah Hutton in the Javelin were other athletes who qualified through the rounds to reach the All-Ireland.

Three athletes, Laura Ward, Niall Harvey and Leah Hutton are selected on the Leinster Tailteann Games team. This is an inter-provincial between the four provinces from which the International team is selected.

At our Junior School's Awards Ayomide Oke, Laura Ward and Niall Harvey were nominated for Junior athlete of the year with Niall getting the award while Laura Ward got overall Junior Sports Person of the year. At the Senior Awards David Lawler was Senior athlete of the year.

To contact Presentation College:

Phone: (059) 9143927 Fax: (059) 9140645

email: info@presentationcollegearlow.com web: www.presentationcollegearlow.com